

## **What is the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety?**

The citizen's committee was created by state law in 2000 to "advise the state agencies and other appropriate federal and local government agencies and officials on matters relating to hazardous liquid and gas pipeline safety, routing, construction, operation and maintenance." (RCW 81.88.140).

In 2002, Congress referenced the importance of such state advisory committees by requiring that the federal Secretary of Transportation respond in writing within 90 days to any pipeline safety recommendations made by a state pipeline safety advisory committee. (HR 3609, Section 24)

The committee has nine voting members representing the public, including local government and elected officials. Four non-voting members represent owners and operators of hazardous liquid and gas pipelines. The members are appointed by the Governor and serve three-year staggered terms. The director of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) pipeline safety program and members of staff assist the committee.

## **Goals & Expectations**

The committee's primary goal is to maintain and improve the safety of pipelines in Washington State. In pursuing this goal, the committee expects to:

- Raise understanding and awareness of pipelines and pipeline safety;
- Review, comment and make recommendations on proposed local, state and federal pipeline laws and regulations;
- Give counsel and advice to local governments, the state pipeline safety program, the state spill prevention and response program, Department of Ecology (DOE), and the federal pipeline safety program in the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

The committee met 3 times and had 2 conference calls over the year. Discussions included:

- Governor's proposal to eliminate some Boards and Commissions due to the financial crisis.
- RCW 19.122- Washington's "Dig Law" work group.
- Implementation of the AWC's Technical Assistant Grant, regarding Land Use and Planning around pipelines.
- Revisiting the Department of Ecology's SEPA guidance checklist.
- Discussion and deferral of a Mini-Conference on Pipeline Damage Prevention.
- Carl Weimer's Testimony to Congress on the reauthorization of the pipeline safety law.

## Members

In 2010, the committee lost and gained members as terms expired and new members were appointed.

As of December 31, 2010, members were:

### Voting members:

Ron Schmitt, chair, Tacoma	Public
Tim Sweeney, vice-chair, Olympia	Public
Carl Weimer, Bellingham	Washington State Association of Counties
David Taylor, Ridgefield	Cities Representative
Bill Rickard, Spokane	Public
Arthur Coulombe, Walla Walla	Public
Andrew Martonick, Walla Walla	Public
Bob Beaumier, Spokane	Public
Terill Briere, Renton	Public

### Non-voting members:

Ruth Mabrey, Battle Ground	Northwest Pipeline Corporation (WGP)
Rosalie Ann Lopez, Seattle	BP/Olympic Pipe Line
Cory Herrick, Tacoma	McChord Pipeline
Jody Morehouse, Spokane	Avista Utilities

### Other members serving at this time include:

Pete Kmet, Tumwater  
Grant Jensen, Northwest Pipeline Corporation (WGP)  
Dave Knoelke, BP  
Duane Henderson, Puget Sound Energy  
George Hills, McChord Pipeline

### Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Attention: Pipeline Safety Program  
PO Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
Phone 360-664-1150 Fax 360-586-1172  
[www.utc.wa.gov/ccops](http://www.utc.wa.gov/ccops)